

REMARKS

Shortened Statutory Period for Reply. The Advisory Action states that the period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection. This is believed to be in error because Applicants responded to the final rejection on December 16, 2004, within two months of the final rejection date of November 3, 2004. The Advisory Action was mailed on March 2, 2005, which is more than three months from the date of the final rejection. Therefore, the shortened statutory period for reply expires on March 2, 2005. See MPEP 706.07(f) and see also the final rejection paragraph 8 on page 5.

Rejections.

The disclosure was objected to due to certain language in Claim 52. Claim 52 is amended as required by the Examiner.

Claims 26, 39, 42, 47, 50 were objected to as dependent on a rejected base claim.

Claim 26 is canceled.

The language of Claims 38, 39 is incorporated into Claim 15. Claim 15 now has the scope of Claim 39, and is therefore believed to be allowable.

The language of Claims 41, 42 is incorporated into Claim 52. Claim 52 now has the scope of Claim 42, and is therefore believed to be allowable.

Claim 47 is canceled.

Claim 50 is re-written as independent.

Each of the remaining claims depends from Claim 15 or 52.

Any questions regarding this case can be addressed to the undersigned at the telephone number below.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 4, 2005.

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4-4-05
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,

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